

# Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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## WITHIN THE WEEK

*Hark, the herald anvils ring!*

It is the wk before Christmas—a period when peace and good will are popularly presumed to reach an all-time peak. And yet we find distrust and disunion at home and abroad.

What has happened to that Peace which we celebrated with such ardor a scant 4 mo's ago? Was it forged in fumbling and frustration? Even now the restless saber, yet stained with blood, rattles ominously in its hold. And men speak with cold finality of that next war.

How, then, above this din and discord, shall the troubled ear and heavy heart hear again the Message of the Manger:

*"... and on earth peace, good will toward men."*

That term which early scholars translated as "good will" traces back to the Greek compound *eudokia*. It denotes kindness and goodness interpreted in action. And this Christmas season we need to get into our thoughts, and into our lives a good deal more of the spirit of *eudokia*.

We are too prone to think and say that as individuals we can do nothing about the problems of peace. As individuals we can do *everything* for peace. National leaders may declare the wars, but in every land it is the people who must *keep the peace*. Once we realize that not *wanting* war isn't a sufficient reason to in-

sure lasting peace, we have taken a great revolutionary step. Next, we must wipe out the conditions that *make* wars—the prejudices, jealousies and intolerances that, thrown into a common cauldron, simmer into open conflicts.

What can you, as an individual, do to promote peace on earth?

You can refuse to participate in any program that has as its objective race discrimination, or the setting of one class or creed above another. You can, thru the force of your ballot, direct the men who make our laws and shape our foreign policies to deal justly and generously with our world neighbors. And finally, by the power of your example, you can heighten the hopes of other peoples thruout the world, and thus seek to make them increasingly immune to the pandering palaver of those who scheme to govern by disunion, or to peddle their prejudices on a national scale.

Let us come to grips with the granite fact that the birth of the Atomic Age has advanced war from a national curse to the status of a world catastrophe. The problem of the atom and how to make it behave is a universal conundrum. It can be solved only thru the combined efforts of the brotherhood of man.

This, then, is the Christmas Story of the year 1945.



## SHIFTING SANDS

The not publicised, last-minute wrangle has developed in United Nations. Strong faction seeks UNO headquarters in Europe rather than U S as originally agreed. No site has yet been selected . . . Rep Wood, House Committee on Un-American Activities, has bill to curb news commentators. It's pretty drastic, probably has no chance, but radio stations are concerned. Say they don't want to further subversive measures, but it's often difficult to distinguish between liberal and Communist who has reason to disguise objectives. Stations want to clean house, beat restrictive legislation. It's ticklish business, but you may expect some tightening . . . The National Association of Manufacturers in their convention last week, put public relations at the top of their agenda. They seek public support in the coming labor strife, but leaders say frankly that first responsibility of association is to educate their own members.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

# Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

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"It is unphilosophical to think we can ever stop war. To do that we would have to civilize people and limit the population."—GEO SANTAYANA, philosopher and author.

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"I hazard the opinion that, like sin and taxes, Christianity is here to stay."—JAS STREET, author of currently popular "preacher" novel, *The Gauntlet*.

" "

"Women never band together to kill and destroy as men do. They work as a constructive, not a destructive, force."—Rep HELEN GAHAGAN DOUGLAS.

" "

"I would be hard up indeed if I had to rely on what is here in the courtroom."—HERMAN GOERING, resentful of *Stars & Stripes* accusation that he wolf-eyes shapely ankles and trim torsos in the courtroom. He added, "But one or two are not so bad," after a woman interpreter walked past.

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"That's just for us and not for the American public."—ESTHER WILLIAMS, film star, refusing to pose for cameramen kissing the groom, after her recent marriage to BEN GAGE.

" "

"I, for one, will not experiment with the medical care of the veteran. Either he gets the quality of medical care he deserves, or I quit—and quit at once."—Maj Gen'l PAUL R HAWLEY, acting surgeon gen'l of the Veterans' Administration, in a letter to Rep EDITH NOURSE ROGERS. HAWLEY has threatened to quit at once if Congress permits "pork barrel politics" to interfere with VA's hospital plan.

" "

"Blowing up cyclotrons is almost equivalent to the attempted cutting down of the Japanese cherry trees here in Washington shortly after Pearl Harbor."—Prof S A GOUDSMIT, of the U of Mich, who headed U S Military Intelligence mission to Germany. Criticizing military intervention in controlling scientific research. GOUDSMIT particularly condemned "such utterly useless extremes as the destruction of the cyclotrons in Japan."

"MAY WE

# Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

"It would be on this slab of marble that Augustine knelt in sadness and prayer, before embarking from Ostia to ret'n to Africa in 388."—Vatican newspaper, *Osservatore Romano*, commenting on recently discovered marble fragment of what is believed to be the tomb of St MONICA, mother of St AUGUSTINE.

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"If too much money goes into the hands of people who save it, we will have a depression."—Mrs ELEANOR ROOSEVELT.

" "

"I always knew you'd set the world on fire!"—Comment of a relative of Prof J ROBERT OPPENHEIMER, who headed atomic-bomb project in New Mex.

" "

"I don't think the (Pearl Harbor) investigation is doing our country any good. I don't think it's doing our foreign relations any good, either. We're in a very critical period now. The country is far from straightened out. Yet they'll take up the time of dozens of senators investigating something of which the true perspective won't be apparent for at least 50 yrs."—Jos L LOCKARD, the U S soldier who first warned of approaching Jap planes, detected on the radar screen, and was told by a superior to "forget it." (Quoted in *N Y Herald-Tribune*)

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"In doing this we are merely following the pattern of our past with speed-up variations appropriate to our tumultuous age."—Rear Admiral CARLETON H WRIGHT, 12th Naval District commandant, charging that America's military power is being dissipated "in a hysteria of speedy demobilization."

"Watch the fight!"—GUSTAVE FRANKEL, pres, Holeproof Hosiery Co, announcing that his firm had released 250,000 prs of nylon stockings to dealers thruout country, for immediate sale.

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"We don't want to lose touch. We hope they'll come back later and bring their wives and children to see the places they lived in over here and the friends they made."

—H STANLEY HYDE, describing post-war campaign of Travel Ass'n of Great Britain and Ireland aimed at keeping in touch with Allied soldiers stationed there during the war.

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"My loyalty toward the Fuehrer is as great as it ever was."—RUDOLF HESS, when asked whether his loyalty toward HITLER diminished when HITLER proclaimed him insane after his historic flight to England in '41.

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"The war dep't is keeping what it has developed in trusteeship for the American people, waiting for word from them on what they want done with the tremendous scientific and industrial triumph we now have in our hands."—Maj Gen'l RICHARD L GROVES, army's top man on atom bomb project, accepting nat'l safety council's award for distinguished service to safety. The award was presented in recognition of the army engineer corps' achievement in maintaining "outstandingly low" accident rates in facilities thruout the country.

" "

"I have never yet found a Nisei who didn't do his full duty right up to the handle."—Gen'l JOSEPH W STILWELL, former commander of China-Burma-India sector, who flew to Santa Ana, Cal, from Washington to present the Distinguished Service Cross to the family of a young Japanese-American soldier killed in action in Italy.

" "

"I wish to commend the fine work done by you Odd Fellows."—Mayor E C McLOGAN, Flint, Mich, welcoming a fraternal delegation to the city. (This was just dandy, except that the group chanced to be Woodmen of the World!)

"They will be practical trials and will not be dragged out."—**JOS B KEENAN**, Chief U S Prosecutor in trial of Gen'l YAMASHITA. KEENAN announced that in forthcoming trials of Japanese war criminals, suspects will be tried in groups, not individually, and that the trials will not be "Roman holidays for either the prosecution or the defense."

"I believe that this war's vets are primarily concerned with prevention of a 3rd war and after that, they'd like to think about the bonuses they can get and the contacts they can make."—**BILL MAULDIN**, cartoonist, reporting on '45 American Legion convention. (In Life)

"Under my leadership the Army is his—he is Commander in Chief and we are there to do his bidding."—Gen'l DWIGHT EISENHOWER, new Army Chief of Staff, after paying his 1st official call on Pres TRUMAN at the White House.

"The very existence of democratic governments on the continent is threatened because we have not moved fast enough."—**HENRY H MORGENTHAU**, former Sec'y of the Treasury, assailing Truman Administration for failure to act on postwar problems presented in Germany.

"Exposed repeatedly to dangers and frustration of Army life he can do little about, it is natural for a soldier to feel utterly abandoned . . . In his attempt at self cure, he tries to recapture a feeling of security by unconsciously turning toward women of the maternal type."—**MAJ NORMAN LEVY**, Chicago neuropsychiatrist, predicting that war vets will seek motherly type girls for wives.

"I would say that Gen'l Eisenhower is a statesman, a diplomat, a patriot, as well as a soldier—perhaps the closest to a George Washington we have ever produced in our nat'l history."—**SEN ARTHUR CAPPER**, proposing Gen'l DWIGHT EISENHOWER, for Republican nomination for President in 1948.

"I don't know how I could have missed him after all the rabbits I've shot."—San Francisco citizen, after firing double-barreled shotgun at his wife's alleged lover.

"I am convinced that the active co-operation of all welfare, religious and social agencies, civic leaders, businessmen and citizens in a broad, nat'l crime prevention program directed at the root of the evil is the path to be followed, and without delay."—Pres HARRY TRUMAN, in message to Internat'l Association of Chiefs of Police. TRUMAN emphasized as their "most alarming" problem the increase in juvenile delinquency and urged campaign aimed at its causes.

"(There has been) considerable pressure for the retention of prisoners of war in this country as a source of labor."—Sec'y of War ROBERT PATTERSON, reiterating war dept's intention to withdraw all prisoners of war from all employment in the U S, have them homebound by end of April.

"If science is given a free rein, it could make that much progress in one generation."—Astronomer HARLOW SHAPLEY, director of Harvard observatory, predicting that average man could have an extra 10 yrs of life if scientists were given financial backing for experimentation.

"One man couldn't carry a bomb—but 6 men or a truck could."—Dr LEO T SZILARD, atomic scientist, revealing approximate size of atomic bomb; (Previous "guesses" have ranged from 5 lbs to 400 lbs.)

"Labor will exert great influence on Brazil's future."—Gen'l ENRICO GASPAR DUTRA, Pres elect of Brazil, announcing that his gov't would continue full cooperation with the U S.

"There will be no festivities—no turkeys, no cigars."—Col B B C ANDRUS, chief jailer of war criminals at Nuernberg, announcing that this will be an "austerity Christmas" for them.

"Belgium will send 2 divisions to the occupation zone assigned to her and the Belgian occupation is expected to take place in the early spring."—**HENRI SPAAK**, Belgium's Foreign Minister, announcing that agreement had been reached with Britain on delimitation of the Belgian zone of occupation in Germany.

"Planning is already under way for the operation which will involve large problems of logistics, including assembly of many naval vessels, extensive instrumentation for measuring results, and assembly of necessary personnel."—Joint statement issued by Sec'y of War ROBERT PATTERSON and Sec'y of the Navy JAMES V FORRESTAL, announcing plan to test atomic bombs' effectiveness against naval vessels.

"Do you see anything wrong with that?"—**HJALMAR SCHACHT**, Nazi fiscal wizard, who turned his back on films of Nazi atrocities but proudly watched film depicting Nazi rise to power. (Film was shown in Nuernberg courtroom to give graphic proof of prosecution charges that Nazis had a master plan of world aggression.)



### Droke House

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## COLUMNIST'S COLUMN

Let's Just Be  
Old-Fashioned  
on Christmas!

RUTH MILLETT

*Scripps-Howard Newspapers*

Kids in Portland, Ore are being told that Santa Claus has abandoned his sleigh and reindeer this yr to travel by rocket ship.

Look—Couldn't we have an entirely old-fashioned Christmas this yr—our 1st since the war's end? Why not let old Santa forget about airplanes and rocket ships and go back to the old peaceful way of traveling by sleigh and reindeer?

And instead of piling tanks and machine guns under the Christmas tree, can't we go back to dolls and cowboy suits and such magical toys as music boxes?

After all, if dad is back home this yr, his presents are going to be different—nothing in blue or khaki color for him. Nothing in cans. Dad is again going to get loud neckties, gadgets for a home instead of for a foxhole, equipment for his civilian hobbies.

And Mom—at least many moms—will not be getting exotic gifts from far-away places. What she will find under the Christmas tree this yr are the same sort of things she used to find, bought on Main st.

The old-fashioned Christmas is going to look good to us grown-ups—so why shouldn't we give it to the kids, too?

For just one day at least, why don't we all try to forget about rocket planes and atomic bombs and go back to the kind of Christmas we used to know? Now that the war is over why try to keep Santa abreast of the times?

### CHILD—Training

Raising children is like baking bread: it has to be a slow process or you end up with an overdone crust and an underdone interior. —MARCELENE COX, "Ask Any Woman," *Ladies' Home Jnl*, 12-'45.

### CHRISTMAS—Gratitude

When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings with toys at Christmas-tide. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs? —GILBERT K CHESTERTON.

### CONSCIENCE

Conscience gets a lot of credit that belongs to cold feet.—*The Link*.

### CONTENTMENT

A Quaker put up a sign on a vacant piece of ground next to his house: "I will give this lot to anyone who is really satisfied."

A wealthy farmer, as he rode by, read it. Stopping, he said, "Since my Quaker friend is going to give that piece away, I may as well have it as anyone else. I am rich. I have all I need, so I am able to qualify." He went up to the door and explained why he had come.

"And is thee really satisfied?" asked the Quaker.

"I have all I need and am well satisfied."

"Friend," said the other, "if thee is satisfied, what does thee want with my lot?"—*Sunday School Times*.

### CO-OPERATION

A man who went into a bird store to buy a canary spotted a bright-looking bird that was singing merrily. "I'll take that one!" he said.

"Fine," agreed the clerk, "but you'll have to take the one in the cage below, too."

The customer protested: "I don't want that old, battered, broken-down bird. I just want the singing one—the one in the cage above."

"Look," he said, "you can't take the one above without the other one."

"And why not?" asked the exasperated customer.

"Because," explained the clerk, "the one below is the arranger."—*Minneapolis Star-Jnl*.

### They DO Say . . .

Emblem of service in armed forces is being worn consistently by less than half of those entitled to display it. Some military high-ups are disturbed by vets' lack of interest . . . Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is back on gold standard. Winners of wartime plastic Oscars may now redeem them for statuettes of real gold . . . Promoters of the romantic novel, *Kitty* (currently filmed by Paramount with PAULETTE GODDARD), are billing it as "More Scarlet Than Amber." It's pretty tedious tripe . . . Nat'l Ass'n of Mfgs has hired a press agent, HOLCOMBE PARKE, at \$40,000 a yr . . . *Salute*, new mag for men, will be slanted to ex-servicemen; staffed chiefly by chaps from *Yank* and *Stars & Stripes*. Will be *Yank* size and format, seek to hold *Yank* readers.

### EDUCATION

If I had a child who wanted to be a teacher I would bid him God-speed as if he were going to war. For indeed the war against prejudice, greed and ignorance is eternal, and those who dedicate themselves to it give their lives no less because they may live to see some fraction of the battle won. They are the commandoes of the peace, if peace is to be more than a short armistice. As in a relay race, our armed men have handed victory to those who dare not stand still to admire it, but must run with it for very life to a further and larger goal.—JAMES HILTON, "Who Will Lead," *This Wk*, 11-25-'45.

### EDUCATION—Purpose

"Learning to earn a living" is first on the list of educational objectives among American high school students, according to a nation-wide survey just completed by the Institute of Student Opinion.

The survey, conducted among 71,377 senior and junior high school

students listed 8 objectives of high school education. Nat'l results show that the students rate the objectives, as to their essential importance, in the following order: 1) vocational training, 2) citizenship training, 3) vocational guidance, 4) personality development, 5) health education, 6) culture, 7) preparation for marriage, and 8) development of leisure time interests.—*The Education Digest*.

#### EXPEDIENCY

William Walcott, noted English etcher, after a week of visiting in N Y, felt the urge to draw. He searched vainly to secure the kind of paper he desired to use. Finally, calling on an old architect friend whom he had met in London, Walcott spied a boy wrapping up a set of house plans.

"What is that paper?" he asked. "It's just ordinary wrapping paper," replied the boy.

"Nothing is ordinary," corrected the artist, "if you know how to use it." He took one of the big sheets, folded it, and hurried away. On that "ordinary" wrapping paper Walcott, the etcher, made 2 sketches. They will live among famous drypoint etchings of the world.—*Service Bulletin*.

#### FORESIGHT—Rewarded

They tell the story of a GI in the Pacific who had a flat-iron—and that iron got him more attention from females than a penthouse full of etchings ever would.—ALEXANDER R GRIFFIN, *Out of Carnage*. (Howell, Soskin)

#### FRIENDSHIP

Trouble is a great sieve thru which we sift our acquaintances; those who are too big to pass thru are friends. — *North Carolina Churchman*.

#### GIFTS—Giving

There are laws which operate for human happiness, whether we recognize them or not. One of these is the law of giving . . . You cannot give until you realize that you have. The very act is a proof of well-being.—MARGARET LEE RUNBECK. "What the Well-Dressed Heart Will Wear For December," *Christian Herald*, 12-'45.

#### GOD—And Man

I occasionally take my large atlas off its shelf and turn to one of its pages which pictures a huge semicircle. In segments of different color and size, it neatly represents the principle religions of the earth, with green Catholics hardly more numerous than violet Mohammedans or orange Brahmans, with gray Protestants slightly predominant over the rosy heathen, with blue Jews forming a slender thread against the expansive red strip of Buddhists. And I wonder when some magnificent future atlas will picture all these children of God in the radiant blending of white spiritual consciousness.—(Anonymous), "When the Wall Is Fallen," *Atlantic Monthly*, 12-'45.

#### HUMILITY

When Wm Allen White, editor of the *Emporia Gazette*, was standing in line at Columbia U, to receive an honorary degree, the man in front of him asked where he was from. "I guess I don't belong here," replied White, "I'm just a country editor from Kansas."

"Well," responded his companion in line, "I'm just a country doctor from Minnesota."

The "country doctor" turned out to be Wm J Mayo, of Rochester.—DAVID HINSHAW, *A Man From Kansas*. (Putnam)

#### INFLATION

Inflation, once started, is like going over the edge of a waterfall, the only stopping place is at the bottom.—LORD RIVERDALE.

#### INITIATIVE—Need for

In time of war we don't have much freedom of individual choice. We still, by habit, ask: "What's Russia going to do?" or "What's the gov't going to do?" "What's the labor going to do?" or "What's industry going to do?"

But the really important question for each of us is: "What am I going to do?" On that question you are the Big One conference. Nobody can help you as much as you can help yourself.—Wm S KNUDSEN, "The Next 10 Yrs," *American Mag*, 1-'46.



**CONFIDENTIALLY  
THRU A  
MEGAPHONE**

As forecast in these col's many mo's ago, ret'g vets are having one heck of a time finding civilian apparel. Retail shops don't have anything approaching adequate stocks. Situation is far from funny, but some good gags are resulting:

Out in Calif, young lawyer, just out of service, appeared in court last wk to try a case. He was wearing his uniform. Opponent objected, and was upheld by the court on ground that GI display might give unconscious advantage. Vet explained that his mother had sold his clothes; he hadn't been able to replace his wardrobe. But court was adamant. So young lawyer visited a nearby theatrical costume service; ret'd in cowboy regalia.

A naval officer, just discharged, invested a day in vain effort to buy civilian clothes; ret'd at eve with a single purchase: 12 prs of plaid socks. Nothing daunted, he sat down and tried on each pair . . .

Photography is destined to play increasingly important role in medicine and surgery. Robotron, war-developed camera, takes color-film records of unusual operations. Makes unshadowed reproduction of internal organs that formerly defied picturing without battery of special floodlights.

Two-way natural-color television may make possible expert diagnosis of disease by specialist many mi's distant. Surgeon performing operation may be watched by students in distant cities. *Medical Economics* points out that while wealthy may visit clinics, patients of modest means may consult experts via television from local health centers, or even from their homes.



**AIR CONDITIONING:** Silica gel, inexpensive chemical used inside overseas packages of instruments or machine parts to absorb air moisture, may now be used in air-conditioning units to lower office or home humidity. (*Forbes*)

**COMMUNICATION:** New device, Jerry-phone, can be used without holding instrument to mouth and ear. When phone rings, receiver is taken from hook, placed over 2 openings in a box-like apparatus, leaving hands free for taking message, looking up papers while talking. Enables 3 or 4 people to be in on same conversation. By turning up volume, conversation can be carried on some distance from phone. (*Scholastic*)

**HEALTH AND HYGIENE:** New health lamp emits combination of germ-killing and health-giving radiation. Its action depends on new chemical phosphor, a fluorescent powder used on inside wall of lamp tube which converts germicidal waves from mercury discharge lamp into ultra-violet rays. (*Science News Letter*)

**HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES:** Central vacuum cleaning system for homes eliminates necessity of carrying cleaner about, manipulating heavy tubing; no bag to be emptied. Central plant in basement; convenient outlets in each room. (*Change*)

**VISION:** New Polaroid Day-Driving Visor consists of panel of transparent, light-polarizing plastic to attach to standard opaque sun visor on almost any automotive vehicle. Permits useful seeing portion of reflected light to pass thru to driver's eyes but eliminates glare that distorts view, leads to eye strain. (*Business Wk*)

#### MAN—Future

A lump of coal presents certain familiar characteristics under ordinary conditions. Change the pressure to which it is subjected and it becomes an entirely different phenomenon. Similarly, as to what kind of creatures human beings would turn out to be after living for many generations under the Four Freedoms, we can only surmise. So far man has lived under the influence of fears, struggles and frustrations.—JOHN M FLETCHER, "We Don't Have To Have Wars," *The Nation's Schools*, 11-'45.

#### MOTHER—Love

Little Billy awoke bright and early Christmas morning and was soon dancing around the Christmas tree in boyish ecstasy. He discovered a handsome, new bicycle with his name attached.

"I bet Uncle John sent it to you," his brother ventured.

"No, he didn't!" Billy replied.

"Then it came from Aunt Jane."

"No, it didn't!" Billy stoutly maintained.

"Then who gave it?" Billy's sister asked.

"It must have come from Mother!" Billy enthused.

"How do you know?"

"Nobody else loves me—that much."—*Pulpit Digest*.

#### OBSTACLES—Surmounting

Geo Leigh-Mallory's explanation of why men climb remains today the simplest, and at the same time perhaps the most profound that has ever been given.

"But why," a friend asked him as he set out for a renewed assault on Mt Everest. "Why do you try to climb this mountain?"

Mallory's answer consisted of 4 words:

"Because it is there."—JAS RAMSEY ULLMAN, "High Conquest," *True*, 12-'45.

#### READING—Comic Books

Market Research found that "comic books" . . . are read by 95% of all boys and 91% of all girls between the ages of 6 and 11; by 87% of all boys and 81% of all girls from 12 to 17; by 41% of all men and 28% of all women in the

18-to-20 age group, and by 16% of all men, 12% of all women 31 or over.—SGT SANDERSON VANDERBILT, "The Comics," *Yank*, 11-23-'45.

#### Happy, Happy Christmas

*Happy, happy Christmas that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days . . . that can recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth . . . and transport the sailor and traveller, thousands of miles away, back to his own fire-side and his quiet home.*

—CHAS DICKENS.

#### RUSSIA—Character

The Russian, like any good horse trader, asks for more than he expects. If you give it to him, he secretly despises you for being too easy. He wants to spend delightful hrs in haggling; doesn't understand compromising to save time — he does understand bargaining to make a profit. Stop thinking of the Russian as a tough customer—accept him as a hard bargainer.—J P McEvoy, "Strange Bedfellows of Berlin," *Cosmopolitan*, 12-'45.

#### SPEECH—Speaking

Two brothers—one a famous baseball pitcher, the other a preacher—met after a long separation. Some time was spent in exchange of reminiscences. Then the preacher said: "How is it, Bill? I've spent 4 yrs in college, 3 yrs at the seminary, and you've never done anything but play ball. And now you're getting a salary of \$10,000 a yr while I get \$900. I can't understand it."

Bill thought a minute, then he said: "I'll tell you how it is, Jim: it's all in the delivery."—BENJAMIN S WINCHESTER, *Wesleyan Christian Advocate*.

#### WAR

In the last 30 yrs we have lived in 3 different military ages. In '16 we were still in the age of fire-arms; from '17 to '44, in the age of motorized war; in '45 we are already in the age of the atomic bomb.—MAX WERNER, "A New Concept of War," *Redbook*, 12-'45.



## Shepherds in David's Fields

MADELEINE S MILLER

For 15 yrs the AUGSBURG PUBLISHING HOUSE, of Minneapolis, has issued at the Holiday Season an American ANNUAL OF CHRISTMAS LITERATURE AND ART. This book, which carries the simple title, CHRISTMAS, is beautifully printed with many illustrations in color. In paper binding, it is priced at \$1. There is a gift edition, boxed and bound in boards, at \$2. It is from this source that we abridge an interesting historical account of the shepherds of Bethlehem.

Bethlehem itself is not a shepherds village. It is too elegant for that. Its substantial stone homes housing about 6,000 people, most of whom are Christian Arabs; its spacious Basilica of the Nativity; numerous schools, orphanages and convents, make it a sizeable town with a good standard of well-fed living. Its cubicle structures range row on row like tiers in a timeless amphitheatre, looking down on the fertile stage of fields where David, the son of Jesse, watched his flocks, and dreamed the God-filled beauty of his Judean landscape into lyrics we cherish as Psalms.

But Bethlehem has daily contact with shepherds who watch their flocks in the same fields where David roamed. For Bethlehem animal mkt is a hub of merchandising where sheep and goats, camels and donkeys are sold, adjacent to well-stocked stalls of fruit, vegetables and grain. And down on the rich acres cultivated by Boaz and Ruth, ancestors of Jesus, there is a shepherd's village, called Beit Sahur. This ancient settlement is close to the "Field of the Shepherds" where an early tradition locates the Nativity Night vantage point.

The most interesting feature of the "Shepherds' Field" is a dark grotto entered by a flight of about 20 steps—a grotto now made into a dimly-lighted subterranean chapel. It is easy to believe that a grotto similar to this was the customary shelter for shepherds when Christ was born . . .

From a cave in the Plain it was an easy climb to the hillside stable cut into the rocks beneath the inn of Bethlehem. There the shaggy men who became the world's most famous shepherds looked into the face of a lovely Child who became their, and the world's, Savior . . .

It is appropriate that the first "Christmas broadcast" came to men whose basic role in society was valued from one end of the Mediterranean world to the other . . . Shepherd customs in the vicinity of Bethlehem are a carry-over from patriarchal times. Shepherd means "feeder". From stables under the family's living quarters, the shepherd leads forth his own and his neighbor's sheep, in a sort of rustic co-operative . . . Bedouin shepherds have superior resistance to cold and seldom repair to their black-tented villages during the raw, windy rains of November and December. Storms do not harm their thick-wooled charges, but if the temperature drops too low, they make stone corrals or resort to familiar shelters, throwing themselves across the openings . . .

Never a Christmas comes to Manger Square, in front of the church begun by Constantine over the honored site believed to be the birthplace of Christ, but shepherds from Beit Sahur climb up from their village to join the throng of worshippers. The starry midnight finds them on the fringe of the international group of many creeds who forget all differences as they unite in an "Adeste Fideles."

"So, too, when the Jerusalem Y M C A conducts its Christmas Eve Carol Service down in the "Field of the Shepherds," keepers of the flocks, who guard an eternal heritage of Christmas, share with strangers the hospitality of the Plain from whose sheep-walks their forebears climbed to find "both Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger." Their uncommon good sense made them return in a mood of "glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, even as it was spoken unto them." They were more than shepherds.



GEMS FROM

Yesteryear

## Birds' Christmas Carol

KATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN

BIRDS' CHRISTMAS CAROL is perhaps the best-known American Christmas story. It is admittedly a bit on the saccharine side; but there are overtones of genuine humor, as when Mrs RUGGLES grooms her 9 "children" for the feast:

"Well," Mrs Ruggles exclaimed, "if I do say so as shouldn't, I never see a cleaner more stylish mess o' children in my life! . . .

"Now, Cornelius, what are you goin' ter say to make yerself good comp'ny? Ye ain't goin' to set there like a bump on a log 'thout sayin' a word ter pay for yer vittles, air ye? Ask Mis' Bird how she's feelin' this evenin', or if Mr Bird's hevin' a busy season, or how this weather agrees with him.

"Now, we'll make believe we've got t' the dinner—that won't be so hard, 'cause yer'll have some-thin' to do—it's awful bothersome t' stan' round an' act stylish. If they have napkins, Sarah Maud down to Peory may put 'em in their laps, 'n the rest o' ye can tuck 'em in yer necks. Don't eat with yer fingers—don't grab no vittles off one another's plates; don't reach out fer nothin', but wait till yer asked, 'n' if you never git asked don't git up an' grab.

"Susan, keep yer handkerchief in yer lap where Peory can borrow it if she needs it, 'n' I hope she'll know when she does need it, tho I don't expect it. I wouldn't mind if folks would only say, 'Oh children will be children'; but they won't. They'll say, 'Land o' Goodness, who fetched them children up?' Well, it's quarter past five, 'n' yer can go now. But whatever yer do, all of yer, never forgit for one second that yer mother was a McGrill!"

To the utter surprise of the teacher, the dullest boy in the class raised his hand when she asked, "Can anyone tell me where St Louis is?"

Nodding to the boy she said, "All right, Junior, you may answer."

"St Louis," said the lad, "is playing in N Y."—*Coronet*.

" "

A man was recently given the job of convening a committee of some sort. One of his tasks was to telephone some 12 mbrs to advise them of the dates of meetings. The other day he was hard at it when on one call he was greeted by a deep and solemn voice.

"Is Mr Tom Whosit there?" he asked.

"Not yet," was the gloomy reply.

"Do you expect him soon?"

"I couldn't say," was the answer.

"Well, when he comes in would you give him a message?"

Then the voice replied: "That may be difficult."

The caller became a bit impatient. "Say," he demanded, "just whom am I talking to?"

"This," said the lugubrious voice, "is the Jones Mortuary Parlors."—*The Montrealer*.



## OF THE WEEK

There are more bucks shot in the bar-room than in the woods.—*Marion (Wis) Advertiser*.

" "

LETTER: a form of composition opening with an excuse for not opening sooner and closing with an excuse for not closing later.—*JOHN ANDREW HOLMES*.

" "

BATHING BEAUTY: a girl worth wading for.

## GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

### I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

MORRIS L ERNST  
Attorney

A couple was ushered into the court-room as their case was called. The wife was a strong, healthy, broad-shouldered Irish woman; her husband a meek and obviously submissive little man.

The judge looked sharply at the meek male and spoke:

"You are accused of beating your wife. What have you to say?"

"Guilty, sir," said the little man unhesitatingly.

"Seven dollars or seven days," was the magistrate's prompt decision.

Later, a court official, commenting on the case, asked the magistrate if he hadn't been a bit severe in punishing the poor little fellow.

"Well," was the response, "I had to give him something for bragging!"

The partners called Cohen, the manager, into the inner sanctum.

"Listen, Cohen," said the 1st button-hole maker. "We find that last yr's business was the best since we opened the place. We know how much hard work you put in for us, and as a special mark of our appreciation, we are making out a check for one thousand dollars for you."

The manager stammered his thanks.

"Yes," went on the other partner, "and if next yr's business is as good as this, we'll sign it."—*Young Men*.

For all those who like Shaggy Dog stories, here is a Shaggy Skunk tale that is going the rounds:

Mama Skunk was worried because she could never keep track of her two children. They were named In and Out, and whenever In was in, Out was out, and if Out was in, In was out. One day she called Out to her and told him to go out and bring In in. So Out went out and in no time at all he brought In in.

"Wonderful!" said Mama Skunk. "How, in all this great forest, could you find In in so short a time?"

"It was easy," said Out. "Instinct."—*This Wk.*



